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were in part settled by American Tories, or Loyalists, who carried over their slaves, and it may have been in this way that arose the resemblance observed in the countries between which at present little intercourse exists. The volume will be provided with an Introduction and illustrations.

SUPERSTITIOUS EXPLANATION OF PATCHES OF WARM AIR.—Local strata of warm air only a few yards in extent may often be noticed on a summer's evening. According to May A. Waring, the negroes of South Carolina believe that such a stratum "indicates the presence of a 'sperrit.'" (Jour. Am. Folk-Lore, vol. vii. p. 319.)

The change of temperature in this case is so striking that it would seem quite a suitable subject for a folk-lore explanation. A slight search of the literature has not, as yet, brought to light any parallels. A friend tells me of an Irish coachman, living near Boston, who thinks that such a stratum of air indicates the presence of the devil, or is in some way related to his satanic majesty, and always crosses himself, and neither breathes nor speaks in passing through it.

George W. Moorehouse.

SUPERSTITION RELATING TO THE COLOR OF HORSES.—An early number of the English "Folk-Lore Journal" reports the following superstition in regard to the value of horses as current in Lanarkshire:—

If he has one white foot buy him,
If he has two you may try him,
If he has three look shy at him,
But if he has four go by him.

A variant of this rhyme I heard many times in childhood, and it was impressed on my mind by an excellent horse which completely disapproved the universal application of the test.

One white foot try him,
Two white feet buy him,
Three white feet deny him,
Four white feet and a white nose,
Take off his skin and throw him to the crows.

The transposition of "try" and "buy" is noticeable and may be an error which has occurred in transmission from one generation to another.

Mr. Henry Phillips, Jr., reports the last lines of this rhyme in his "First Contribution to the Folk-Lore of Philadelphia and Vicinity." (Proc. Am. Philos. Soc., July to December, 1888.)

Four white feet and a white nose,
Throw him to the crows.

[See "Folk-Lore Journal" (London), vol. ii. p. 106, for variants from Scotland.]

George W. Moorehouse.

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